

106th Congress, 1st Session - - - - - House Document 106-35

APPROPRIATIONS FOR  
THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

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COMMUNICATION

FROM

**THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

TRANSMITTING

A REQUEST TO MAKE AVAILABLE PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED  
CONTINGENT EMERGENCY FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF  
ENERGY



MARCH 4, 1999.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and  
ordered to be printed

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WASHINGTON : 1999

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
*Washington, March 2, 1999.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

SIR: In accordance with provisions of P.L. 105-277, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, I hereby request the following:

*Department of Energy*

- Atomic Energy Defense Activities, Other Defense Activities: \$525,000,000.

These funds will help reduce the amount of excess fissile material in Russia and, consequently, the risk that such material could be diverted by terrorists or other illicit groups attempting to obtain nuclear weapons capabilities. Within the total, \$325,000,000 will be made available to purchase natural uranium associated with the United States-Russia High Enriched Uranium (HEU) Purchase Agreement, and \$200,000,000 will be made available to implement a United States/Russian accord for the disposition of excess weapons plutonium.

I hereby designate the above request as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

The details of this action are set forth in the enclosed letter from the Director of the Office of Management and Budget. I concur with his comments and observations.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

Enclosure.



[Estimate No. 9, 106th Cong., 1st Sess.]

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT,  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET,  
*Washington, DC, March 2, 1999.*

The PRESIDENT,  
*The White House.*

Submitted for your consideration is a request to make available a total of \$525 million in previously appropriated contingent emergency funds for the Department of Energy.

P.L. 105-277, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, provided \$325 million to the Department of Energy to purchase natural uranium under the United States-Russia High Enriched Uranium (HEU) Purchase Agreement and \$200 million to implement a United States/Russian accord for the disposition of excess weapons plutonium. The availability of each amount was made contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress that includes designation of the entire amount as an emergency requirement.

Both appropriations are urgently needed to reduce the amount of excess fissile material in Russia and, consequently, the risk that such material could be diverted by terrorists or other illicit groups attempting to obtain nuclear weapons capabilities.

I recommend that you designate \$525 million as an emergency requirement in accordance with section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended.

In the case of each appropriation, P.L. 105-277 includes additional provisos that must be met before the funds may be obligated. For example, the funds to purchase natural uranium will be available only upon development of a long-term agreement by the Government of the Russian Federation and commercial partners for the sale of uranium to be derived from deliveries scheduled for 1999 and thereafter. Such an agreement is in the final stages of negotiation and should be concluded shortly. The Office of Management and Budget will use the apportionment process and other means available to ensure that the funds are not obligated until this and all other legal requirement have been met.

I have carefully reviewed these proposals and am satisfied that they are necessary at this time. Therefore, I recommend that you make the requested funds available by signing the enclosed letter to the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

JACOB J. LEW, *Director.*

Enclosure.

EMERGENCY APPROPRIATIONS: AMOUNTS PREVIOUSLY APPROPRIATED MADE  
AVAILABLE BY THE PRESIDENT

Department of Energy:

Atomic Energy Defense Activities: Other Defense Activities ..... \$525,000,000

Division B, Title I, Chapter 2 of P.L. 105–277, the Omnibus Consolidated and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act, 1999, provided \$525 million in emergency funding for Other Defense Activities contingent upon the President submitting a budget request to the Congress and designating the entire amount requested as an emergency requirement.

These funds will help reduce the amount of excess fissile material in Russia and, consequently, the risk that such material could be diverted by terrorists or other illicit groups attempting to obtain nuclear weapons capabilities. Within the total, \$325,000,000 will be made available to purchase natural uranium associated with the United States-Russia High Enriched Uranium (HEU) Purchase Agreement, and \$200,000,000 will be made available to implement a United States/Russian accord for the disposition of excess weapons plutonium.

